Demand and Supply of Power

1872. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether power shortage is hampering industrial and agricultural growth;

(b) if so, the total demand and supply of power in rural and urban areas during the last five year, year-wise, State-wise and sector-wise (industrial, agricultural, commercial and domestic);

(c) the measures initiated and contemplated to meet the power-shortage and financial allocation made for the purpose;

(d) whether some proposals have been received for setting up ultra-mega power projects of 4,000 MW capacity each in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether Government have refused sovereign guarantee for such proposal from private companies; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) The power shortage continues to be there in the country; the quantum of power shortage varies from State to State. In order to optimize utilization of available power, State Governments/Power Utilities regulate supply of power to their consumers by imposing power cuts/restrictions and resort to load shedding from time to time depending on availability and requirement of power. The supply and distribution of electricity to the ultimate consumers including industrial, agricultural and other sectors in a State is the responsibility of concerned State Government/State Power Utility which decides priority of power supply to various categories of consumers.

(b) State-wise power supply position in the country during the years 2000-01 to 2004-05 is given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 207 Annexure No. 7]. The actual energy sales for the last five years (2000-01 to 2004-05) year-wise, State-wise and category-wise is given in [*See* Appendix 207, Annexure No. 7].

(c) The following steps have been taken by the Government to increase supply of power in the country:

(i) A capacity addition of 41,110 MW has been targeted for 10th Five Year Plan consisting of 22,832 MW in Central Sector, 11,157 MW in State Sector and 7,121 MW in Private Sector with the component of hydro, thermal and nuclear being 14,393 MW, 25,417 MW and 1,300 MW respectively.

(ii) Maximization of generation and increase in plant load factor (PLF) of thermal power stations.

(iii) Early stabilization of newly commissioned units.

(iv) Exploitation of hydro potential at a faster pace.

(v) Renovation, modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generation units with interest subsidy on loans by the Power Finance Corporation.

(vi) Tapping of surplus Power form captive power plants.

(vii) Enhancement of inter-state and inter-regional transfer of power by strengthening of inter-regional transmission links eventually leading to formation of National Grid.

(viii) Strengthening/augmentation of sub-transmission & distribution system.

The original Plan outlay of the Ministry of Power for the 10th Plan was Rs. 1,43,399 crores and the Mid-term Plan outlay has been assessed at Rs. 1,10,069.59 crores and against that Planning Commission have fixed the ceiling at Rs. 92,941 crores.

(d) and (e) The Government has taken an initiative for facilitating the development of five Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4000 MW capacity each under tariff based competitive bidding route. Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka and Maharashtra are the State in which an ultra mega power project each is envisaged to be set up in the first phase. The total proposed power to be generated from each ultra mega power project is 4000 megawatt.

(f) and (g) The matter related to payment security mechanism was discussed and it was suggested that the payment security mechanism of proposed Ultra Mega Power projects could be on following lines:

(i) Revolving Letter of Credit by distribution licensee.

(ii) Escrow account establishing irrevocable claims of receivables of distribution utility.

(iii) In a likely event of any default, direct supply to HT consumers or any other more credible distribution licensees as per the provisions of Electricity Act, 2003.

Grievances of Delhi citizens

1873. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Government propose to have an ombudsman to address the problems of Delhi citizens in the power sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this body is also proposed to be set up in other sectors to address the grievances of Delhi citizens; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission has appointed Ombudsman under Section 42(6) of the Electricity Act, 2003 to settle grievances of consumers of power sector. The office of Ombudsman is located at B-53, Paschimi Marg, Opposite Tagore International School, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110057. The office of the Ombudsman is functional since August 2004.

(c) and (d) Public Grievance Commission (PGC) in Delhi addresses the grievances of Delhi citizen.

Demand of electricity in Rajasthan

1874. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minsiter of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total demand and availability of electricity in Rajasthan at present;

(b) the schemes to meet the electricity deficit in Rajasthan;

(c) whether the rural electrification programme is being implemented in remote areas of Rajasthan particularly in the bordering villages, and if so, the outcome thereof;